

Medicinal L.
A

SECOND LETTER

TO AN

APOTHECARY at *Windsor*,

CONCERNING

A late very extraordinary Physical
Tranfaction at *Eton*.

By CH. BATEMAN, Surgeon at *Chertsey*.

" He worketh in the dark, as a mole, and fancieth
" he is safe; but he blundereth into light, and
" is betrayed and exposed, with his dirt on his
" head."

Æcon. of Human Life.

L O N D O N:

Printed for J. COOTE, at the King's Arms, opposite
Devereux-Court in the Strand.

MDCCLVIII.



Soon will be published,

Proper Animadversions on some late Abuses,
relative to those *capital Medicines*,

T H E

BARK, OPIUM, and MERCURY :

In which will be demonstrated,

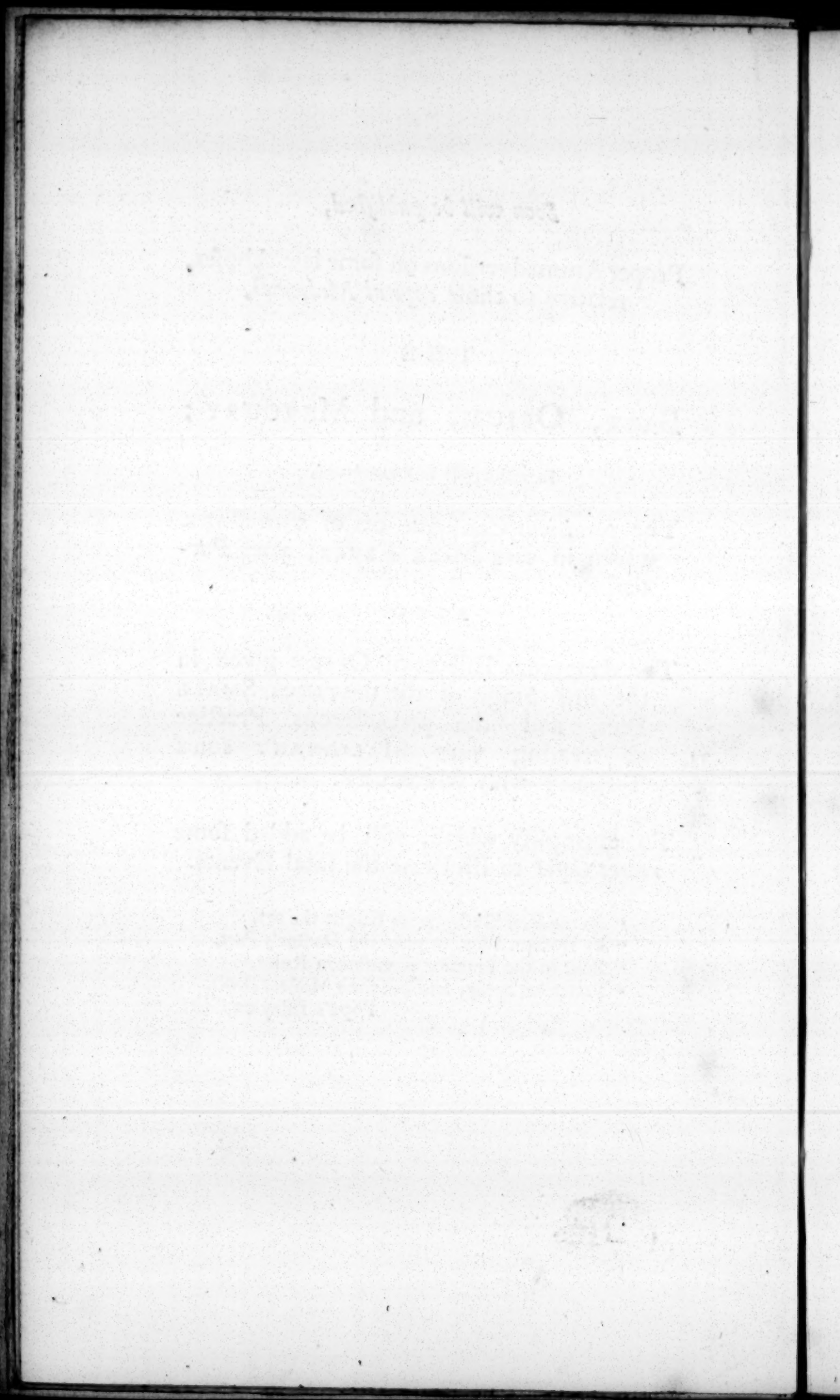
The *pernicious* Consequences of THE BARK
given in THE MILK FEVER, after Par-
turation :

A L S O

The dangerous Effects of OPIUM given in
the first Stage of the DISTINCT SMALL
Pox, and the preposterous Practice
of treating THE MALIGNANT SORE
THROAT with MERCURY.

To exemplify which, will be added some
recent Cases to Illustrate the fatal Events.

“ So modern 'Pothecaries taught the art,
“ By Doctors Bills, to play the Doctor's Part,
“ Bold in the Practice of mistaken Rules,
“ Prescribe, apply, and call their Masters Fools.
Pope's Essay on Crit.



[I]

A

SECOND LETTER

TO

MR. K-----r.

Chertsey, May 15, 1758.

S I R,

I Take this opportunity to remind you, (though perhaps you have not quite forgot it) that the public has a demand upon you for an account of those proceedings, that were the subject of my former letter: your answer to that letter would either have convinced me of my errors, in which case I should have retracted them

B

in

in a public manner, or it might have put me on the necessity of supporting still farther the facts and reasonings contained in it: you have disappointed me in my expectations; from whence I conclude you look upon silence as your best defence.

And yet you gave that pamphlet so much consequence, as to think it required an answer; for otherwise how came you to declare you would write one? Your friends and advocates were of the same opinion, and boldly undertook in your behalf, that a refutation should come out, and baffle all opposers; so that I began to fear I had stirred up an adversary as terrible in logic as in physic, and that your arguments would prove as fatal as your prescriptions.

In the mean time you availed yourself of an excuse for your delay

lay plausible enough : “ The hurry of business was so great, that we must wait for a time of leisure and vacation ; Easter was approaching.” Mere subterfuge and evasion ! Hurry could as little excuse your neglecting your reputation, as the leisure that followed it could enable you to defend it ; and so it has proved in the event.

This expedient having served its time, another was to be thought of. The batteries are shifted ; and lo ! the poor pamphlet, that had met with such encomiums from your own party, “ *a well wrote thing, strong facts, close reasoning,*” is now become a most contemptible performance, full of contradictions : “ *no answer is wanted, it answers itself.*” If I may speak my mind, Mr. K—, you are ill advised ; you live from

hand to mouth, without providing any lasting substance: if an answer was necessary, as you all said for months, why hath it not appeared? If needless, as you say now, why did you all vouch for its appearance? Who can account for these contradictions? Let me attempt it: when your friends said an answer was necessary, they said at the same time an invincible one was preparing; Mr. K—, therefore, was innocent: when they agreed no answer was preparing, they said at the same time none was wanted; Mr K—, therefore, was still innocent: so that your innocence being the only thing common to two propositions, which in every thing else differed point-blank, 'tis manifest, they were suited, not to truth, which never varies, but to your interests, which were varying continually.

But

But however you may affect to slight me, and which is more, the public, how can you justify this behaviour to your own patrons? Are you not ashamed to abscond, considering who are sureties for your appearance? Why do you make your friends bear your burthens? which, by the by, gall some of their shoulders not a little, though some trot on without wincing.

From all this I beg leave to infer, you stand convicted of the charge stated against you in my former letter: of being accessory to the untimely fate of my son, by gross ignorance and neglect; and of having prevaricated both during his illness and afterwards, in the shameful manner there described. But it will be objected, “*No man ought to be condemned unheard.*” True, if he is willing

ling to be heard : but if barely keeping silence were to shelter bad men from a conclusion of their guilt, who but ideots would ever be condemned ? Let a man lie, slander, practise in a science without knowing its elements, salivate a child eight years old for a scarlet fever ; do but stop his mouth, and all mouths shall be stopped against him ; lock him up from pen and ink, he is safe : a mighty cheap receipt this, to keep men's characters without spot or blemish !—But farther, sir, before you take advantage of this maxim, you who think it so equitable to be heard ; why did you do your utmost to debar me from the same liberty ? Why was every method used to stop the sale and circulation of my letter ? Why were the publisher and printer of it threatened with a prosecution ?
and

and those who sold it in the way of their business, palpably discouraged? Why in fact were they absolutely prohibited in your own neighbourhood? And why were the avenues to the advertising *this very letter* stopt up, in one of the daily papers? Does this speak the language of innocence or guilt? Can men of honour, without blushing, approve such conduct, and countenance such unmanly proceedings? Shall the idle pretence too of *political party* be poorly hauled in, on an occasion like this, because there are advocates for truth, who dare support its cause, in opposition to every unfair combination against her?-----Thus, if evading an answer, suppressing the charge, tampering with witnesses, promising, bribing, threatening; if these are not the marks of guilt equivalent to a confession, arise
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and

and tell us what are, and teach the world its new lesson.—But once more, the maxim is not applicable to your case; you have been *heard* already; the world has read *your letter*, and condemned you out of your own mouth: they have argued from the effects which you have confessed, because they were too manifest to be denied; to the causes which you have concealed, because they were too shameful to be discovered: they have inferred the reasons why no better advice was resorted to; you were too conceited at first to admit of rivals, and too guilty afterwards to call in witnesses: they have accounted for the inconsistencies in your letter, from the perplexity you was in, between your obligation to inform, and your desire to mislead me from the truth: lastly, they have detected you throughout as a masked hypocrite,

hypocrite, jealous of inspection ; who was counting every moment with impatience till your victim expired, when all should be hushed in silence, and the suspicion of your ignorance buried in his grave.

And for this end was every one excluded ! nor your proper duty to your patron could in the least influence you to discover truth ; nor could the danger of the disease induce you to call in a physician to your assistance ; nor the ravaging ulcers in the mouth point out to you the necessity of a surgeon to direct you ; and I, the unhappy father, was particularly excepted to, because I professed this last employ ; and you well knew must infallibly detect those practices you dreaded so much to have made known to the public.

This maxim therefore failing, you have another resource left ;

C

“ I am

“ I am charged, say you, with
 “ throwing a child into a mercu-
 “ rial salivation : now the quan-
 “ tity of *mercury* I gave him, is
 “ utterly incapable of producing
 “ such effects ; therefore the
 “ charge is false.” Very con-
 clusive no doubt ! for not to men-
 tion *the tender age* of the patient ;
 the *precarious operation of mer-*
cury ; the *form* it was given in ;
 with the *profuse vomitings* attend-
 ing the operation ; the great ad-
 vantage it might gain by your
 neglect ; in not attempting to
 check its progress early ; to pass
 all this——The effects were plain
 and visible, and must have some
 cause : if the cause assigned is
 not sufficient, let us look for a
 stronger : now, what if you fibbed
 a little, Mr. K——, and
 really gave more than you cared
 to confess ! would it be altogether
 mira-

miraculous? in the very same letter you say, you gave but two doses, whereas you know in your conscience, and half the house knows, the child took three; and why might you not suppress the quantity of the medicines, as you did the number of the doses?

But I beg leave to observe, Sir, that I by no means lay any particular stress on this; whatever the quantity was, 'tis quite immaterial, as the fact is certain, and has been undeniably proved by the testimony of undoubted medical judges; 'tis incumbent on you therefore to disprove it; and to clear up to the world the cause of so long, as well as so profuse a salivation: nor does this preclude another kind of argument; for it easily may be made appear from the experience of gentlemen of the first eminence

in their professions, that even as *small quantities of mercury* as you have *confessed* to have given, have produced such effects, under the shameful circumstances of neglect abovementioned: it may be worth observing here, that such precarious operation is not peculiar to this medicine alone; *a very late and fatal instance*, may, on recollection, occur to you, of the deleterious power of *opium* imprudently given to such young subjects; nor will the smallness of the dose, at all atone for the impropriety of the practice, or the fatality that must attend the preposterous abuse of such noble remedies.

However, to cut off all debate, you alledge the authority of several, the most eminent physicians in this kingdom, who, as you and your friends most confidently give out,

out, have with one voice justified your practice on this occasion : This hath most industriously been proclaimed in your favour, and furnished great matter of triumph to yourself and your admirers : and, for my own part, I am so far from appealing from such authority, that make it but appear you have a concurrence of their judgments in your favour, I here engage to sign a formal recantation at any given time : but, for the present, I do aver, that the assertion of your having received such sanction, is a tale of falsehood, parallel in my opinion to the worst of forgeries, and a consummate slander. One reason of my confidence is this ; had it been true, you would have made public the authorities of those whom the public honours, and not stood the mark of obloquy one moment, when

when you could have been sheltered under such protection. But you knew it to be false ; and therefore contented yourself to rattle out your pedantic jabber to your private admirers, whose credulity starts forth to meet every limping argument you produce---

With your leave, Sir, I shall not part with this assertion, without grappling with it a little closer. Did these eminent persons justify your proceedings, upon the state of my pamphlet ? for, if not, 'tis nothing to the purpose. “ Yes, “ say you, the facts stated in “ your pamphlet are false.” Disprove them then ; produce your evidence ; dislodge those facts, and establish new ones. Suppose you had appeal'd to MEAD himself ; “ I have given so and so, “ are not those medicines proper “ for a dropfy ?” would his sanction

tion clear you, if it were proved afterwards the patient had a quinsy? When a person is thus consulted, the truth of facts is presupposed; and he proceeds to draw a just conclusion from what he thinks fair premises; but where facts are not ascertained, the conclusion must needs be precarious; and can never bind against clearer evidence; for then, the question being changed, the first answer becomes useless.

No longer therefore fly for refuge to the protection of these gentlemen, whom, I affirm, you have calumniated behind their backs: speaking in print, is speaking to a man's face: specify the particulars of the case stated for their opinion, that the merits of this pretension may be fairly tried. I stake my whole cause on this issue: if you say you have their appro-
bation

bation of your proceedings on a state of facts which I have bound myself to admit, it is very much to your purpose; but then I defy you to prove it true. If you have given in to them, an account defective, disguised and false, their giving their approbation may possibly have been *true*; but then it is nothing to your purpose.

It is a great temptation to pretend we have authorities that justify our actions, when they may be alleged to persons, so biassed to our interest, as never once to examine, whether they are true or counterfeit; but the world will not receive in payment what passes current among such confederated dealers: you may therefore consider at your leisure, what solid advantage hath accrued to you from these bold pretensions, which, like strong cordials, have revived
you

you for the present, and will leave you from henceforth more dispirited than ever: it was the way to gain you credit with your party for a time, but it was the way to lose it with the rest of mankind for the remainder of your life.

Having thus offered what I trust will convince all impartial men; I shall now consider what your partial advocates alledge as their reasons, for not openly acknowledging your gross ignorance, &c. in this transaction: and first they say, “ *It is a physical matter, of which they are not competent judges;*” very discreet and modest.—But let us examine it.

Whoever compares the narrative in my first letter, which is my state of the case, with your letter, Mr. K—, which is your state of the case, will plainly discover, we differ materially upon

D

two

two points : you say, my child had *a malignant fever and sore throat* ; and that he had no *mercurial* salivation. I deny the former, and assert the latter.

What are the various species of sore throats, and the methods of treating them, are matters of physical science undoubtedly ; but whether a boy has in fact a sore throat or not, I take a nurse to be nearly as good a judge as a physician : for example, if a boy never complains of any inward pain or uneasiness in his throat ; if he eats as constantly, as heartily, and of the same fare that other boys do, who are confessedly well ; three or four women may fairly give their judgments, such boy has no sore throat, and all the world will believe them.

The like may be said of a fever : if a boy has no breaking
out

out on his skin, they may judge he has no *eruptive fever*, tho' probably they will not use so learned a term : if he has no redness on his skin, that he has no scarlet fever ; and if he is neither restless, hot, or drougthy, sleeps well, and has his usual appetite, they may safely conclude he has no fever at all : and their concurrent testimony will always prevail against that of a single apothecary, who maintains the contrary, when he is taxed with having contributed to the fate of the boy, by medicines calculated for a distemper he never had. Because, for the clearing up a point like this, a man's sincerity ought to be as unquestioned as his knowledge ; and he is now become a party, and therefore cannot reasonably be admitted as a judge.

But there may be cases, where the nature of the thing itself will speak louder, and inforce conviction stronger than any witness whatever; and this is one of them: for, please to recollect what repeated alarms you spread, no less than three times last year, of *infectious, malignant* fevers, without any foundation, or the least apparent danger; for the event notoriously declared the harmlessness of *the distemper*, and the futility of your denunciations: yet, in consequence of this idle chimera of yours, numbers of children were sent for home, and many a parent was made unhappy. For though, under the artificial mask of great assiduity and care, you were indulging your favourite passion for *letter-writing*; yet you proclaimed only to the judicious and sensible, your
 3 own

own profound ignorance and egregious folly ; and while thus giving proofs of a *busy, impertinent disposition*, you was exhibiting also the most undoubted evidence of *false judgment*, and shamefully abusing *the trust* reposed in you.

After this my child falls sick : you give it out that he has *the fever, the distemper*, that is, the same infectious epidemical disorder, which made *E—*, in your opinion, a dangerous place to breathe in ; how came it to pass then, you suffered three boys to continue in the same room with him ? Was a whole town unfit for some to run about in ; and was the tainted atmosphere of a single room fit for others to breathe in, where they must drink infection at its very source ? It has been said, indeed, this is no reflection

tion on you, but on another person ; but that is a great mistake : it concludes strongly against you, and against no-body else ; for no other person professed or believed my child had any fever at all ; you did : prove therefore that you ever remonstrated, expostulated, or once hinted to a single person in that house, the danger of those boys continuance in the room, or the necessity of their removal : so far were you from it, that you extenuated and made light of my child's distemper, *within doors*, though you magnified it *without*. And the reasons of this difference in your conduct are obvious enough ; *without*, it served to keep up the alarm you were propagating : but had you made such a declaration *within*, the consequence was immediate ; a physician had been called in ; I had
been

been sent for : whereas you mortally dreaded any physical inquisition, and were labouring to divert it with your utmost subtilty.

And this naturally brings on a dilemma, which you will find very difficult to evade : when you gave out, my son had an *infectious fever and malignant sore throat*, you either believed your self, or did not : if you did, why called you not in other advice ? why did you object to my having the earliest notice ? why suffered you these boys to continue in the same room with him ? If you did not, why did you take occasion from thence, to spread the alarm of danger still farther, by repeated letters ? &c. And why did you apply this salivation of your own procuring, to prove the *malignity* of a disease, that never existed but in your *own imagination* ? making one falsehood

hood a cover for another, and shamefully insulting both the living and the dead.

Who but yourself, sir, can account for this strange behaviour? Why will you not declare to the world your motives to this amazing conduct? Was it owing to ignorance or disingenuity, that two opposite distempers are thus confounded? And can you still seriously persevere in the ridiculous opinion? Think you thus to create imaginary dangers in order to conceal real blunders? and can you be vain enough to imagine that a great kingdom should be filled with anxiety and terror, the more effectually to screen the ignorance of a country apothecary? Tell me ingenuously, sir, if you would have presumed to treat a child of rank and fortune as you have mine? And, can you in your department claim a privilege

privilege of undue partiality to any ?

As to the salivation's being mercurial, an eminent physician, a surgeon of long practice, and myself, who have had some (besides previously attending one of our first hospitals) all declared it to be so with one voice : if our medical skill is not thought sufficient to encounter yours singly, we must fortify our opinion with the declaration of many others, who can at least give an account of what was obvious to their senses ; and who were witnesses to the dreadful scene described in my former letter : and this evidence is such an incontestable proof of *mercurial* influence, that were you to burst with protesting you had not administered a single grain, no mortal could give you credit ; but when you own you *did* give *mer-*
E
cury,

cury, all doubt vanishes ; for as to the dispute of *quantity*, that has been treated of already.

And let me add in this place, that my visiting him in this situation probably prolonged his life ; for whereas I found nature nearly sunk and exhausted, so that he was attacked with mortal spasms and convulsions the very first day I saw him ; an evacuation of my procuring, with proper restoratives and cordials, gave him some relief and respite ; which, in all appearance, had not happened to him under your discipline, whose avowed principle it was in your letter, *that the spitting must be carefully kept up.*

When to this is joined the evidence of your non-attendance to watch the effects of these medicines ; the consternation that appeared in your countenance, when
you

you saw the fatal progress they had made during your absence ; your not sending to hasten my coming ; your writing that letter, evidently to retard my coming ; when to this are added the marks of guilt, that have appeared in your behaviour since the publication of my letter, that are above recited ; all this united, may induce these gentlemen, your friends, to believe, without any impeachment of their modesty, that, though *it be a physical question, they are competent judges notwithstanding* ; and they may venture to be convinced in consequence, that you are as immoral as illiterate, and have as little shame as science.

But if any doubts remain upon those parts of your letter, which I own are not suited *to common apprehensions*, they may severally

consult their physical acquaintance, for an interpretation ; and particularly they may ask, whether a salival discharge that wetted ten or twelve napkins a day, for nigh thirteen days successively, attended with *loose teeth, furrow'd cheeks, sloughs, and ulcers on the tongue, lips, and gums, fetid breath, and stench intolerable* ; was ever judged by any physician or surgeon under heaven, to have been *a drain partly natural, partly critical from the lymphatic vessels* ? What invaluable secrets are lost to physic by your obstinate modesty, Mr. K— ? Why will you not favour us with a comment on so profound a text ? Why will you not explain to us *your new method* of treating the *malignant sore throat* ? Why not oblige us with the *certain quantity of mercury*

cure necessary to the cure? and inform us *how long the spitting must be carefully kept up?*

Another objection set up by your advocates, is, that “my letter contains assertions contradictory and false.” The instance given of contradiction, is, that having said, *my son was a robust healthy boy*, I say afterwards, he had at times, habitual kernels in his neck: vouchsafe, sir, to give us the name of any one physician upon earth who ever affirmed these kernels to be conclusive proofs of a weak constitution.

The falshood charged upon me, is, that I have said, “the nurse was infected.” I say so still, and can produce half a dozen witnesses to vouch it, together with the surgeon who had her under care, and found her affected *with a slight*

a slight spitting, sore gums, fetid breath, and loose teeth.

“ But this could not be the effect of *mercury* ; because an eminent *surgeon* has declared, no such thing ever happened to the nurses in venereal hospitals ; ” and his ipse dixit, therefore, must be indisputable ! But give me leave to observe, Sir, that great names alone, without superior acquirements, will never demand such respect ; like false lights they are too often apt to deceive and mislead us ; and no implicit confidence should therefore be put in such *vague declarations* against *well attested facts*, unless they are better supported than by such nominal evidence. Let us examine this matter.]

And so a nurse, attending an innocent child, of genteel education,

tion, who was so tender and affectionate to him, that she suffered his head to lie upon her breast during the worst stages of his terrible distemper ; she, I say, could not be infected by mercurial steams ; because it hath not happened to nurses, who probably are not so liberal of their tenderness to a rotten mechanic, or a pocky soldier, in a public hospital : and because *they*, well apprized of their filthy distemper, and the noxious influence of their medicines, are not affected by symptoms, which they cautiously guard against ; therefore this could not happen to a woman who was utterly unacquainted with all this, and never guarded against it, because she suspected nothing of the matter ; and well she might not : for who could imagine that any human creature would treat a
child

child eight years old, in such a manner, as ever to make it possible to compare his condition to that of the wretched objects here referred to?

A third objection you have suggested to your advocates, is this, " That I have *mangled your letter, and left out parts of it.*" I confess, I omitted the postscript, but not a syllable beside ; the reader will find it at the bottom of the page * ; and when he has read it, will reflect, what kind of cause that must be, that can furnish its champions with no better a charge against an adversary, than leaving out such useless and sorry rubbish, as he has there met with.

P. S. I write this in the utmost hurry ; you will always be assured of my *best services*, as a brother in physical drudgery, which I think our profession may truly be called.

After these Assertions, Will

will it be credited that this unfortunate case of my poor *boy* should be proclaimed aloud, to sanctify your original declaration of *infectious fevers*, and *malignant sore throats*; or that it is held forth, as a remarkable proof of the force of THE DISTEMPER, and of the *dreadful consequences* attending the E--- fever? Will it be believed, that one single person, a mere apothecary, in the common sense of the word, should, unsupported by the testimony of his medical superiors, nay in absolute contradiction to them, be permitted thus to alarm a nation with dreadful reports, and *chimerical* dangers, calculated in fact to conceal his own ignorance, and shameful conduct? Can it be conceived, that this case of my child, a disease evidently of *his own procuring*, should be obtruded on the world,

as a *malignant disorder*, to serve the above purposes? Would one think it possible, that a *fatal salivation* of thirteen days continuance, brought on by an improper use of *mercury*, should foolishly, yet audaciously be pronounced a *critical spitting*, from a *malignant sore throat*? Shall *simple, and harmless fevers* also be shamefully magnified, and exaggerated, into *contagious and malignant diseases*, which existed nowhere but in your own distempered imagination? And shall *one* untimely death thus procured by *mercury*, be urged as a dreadful instance of the dangerous and fatal power of the above *pretended diseases*?—'Tis scarce possible to treat such impositions as these, with the proper contempt they deserve; yet a father interested as I am, cannot repeat them without

out emotions of indignation ; which they will necessarily rouse, in consequence of the injuries I have received, and even now feel. They are such daring insults on common sense ; and indeed the deception is so flagrant, and carries so little the air even of probability, that one is at a loss which to admire most, the temerity of the intended imposition, or the blind credulity of those few who have given into it.

But the public, 'tis hoped, will no longer be imposed on by such absurd and fallacious tales, now the dawn of truth is broke forth, and the obscurity which had been artfully thrown round it, is dispelled. *They* have happily no partial indefensible attachments ; *they* are wholly disinterested, and uninfluenced by other motives than that of truth, whose power-

ful prevalence they have already felt, and stiled *the transaction truly deplorable* ; they have made the case their own, and kindly sympathised with a father for the loss of his child :——Humanity is indeed interested in such a cause, nor will it want the most powerful of patrons, while the human heart has sensibility remaining, and disdains not to attend to a parent's griefs, and injuries like mine : for abandoned as the age we live in may be imagined, yet the tender passions of the heart still subsist, and such flagrant impostors are not yet publicly espoused, but by those who avow their detested principles.

Thus, Mr. K——, though you might charitably have been forgiven your first error of judgment, and perhaps have been pitied for your ignorance ; yet, who but
must

must condemn your subsequent conduct ; your premeditatedly writing to me that bare-faced imposing letter, with a view to conceal from me the calamitous scene ; your excluding every medical help from my unhappy child ; and, lastly, your daring attempt to deceive the public in matters of so great importance. Are not these glaring proofs of *a real malignant disposition* ? Have I not a right to say, after all this, and after the foulest of imputations, which you have maliciously spread abroad, “ *that I destroyed my own child* ” “ *by my wilful ignorance* ; ” have I not, I say, abundant reason to believe, that other such medical blunders have, by similar arts, passed undetected ; and that such success has bestowed *on conceited ignorance* that audacity which is otherwise unaccountable ?

But,

But, before I draw to a conclusion, let me consider one general argument that you possibly may be still hardy enough to advance :

“ Upon the first appearance, you
 “ will say, of the charge against
 “ me, I found it made an impression on some weak minds ;
 “ I therefore determined, and
 “ gave out, I would answer it ;
 “ but that impression was soon
 “ worn off and effaced : the letter was calculated to attack my
 “ reputation ; my answer must
 “ have been calculated to defend
 “ it ; when therefore I perceived
 “ my reputation was as fixed as
 “ ever, that none of my friends
 “ would desert me, and none of
 “ my enemies could hurt me ;
 “ the reason for answering subsisted no longer : and why
 “ should I be at the ridiculous
 “ and fruitless pains of supporting
 “ ing

“ ing what has not been shaken,
 “ and recovering what was never
 “ lost?” This being the most
 plausible argument that I fancy
 your invention can suggest, I have
 stated it as strongly as I am able,
 in order to give it a full and ex-
 plicit answer.

I say then it is founded on a
 gross falshood ; persons of fashion
 who had employed you about their
 children, have discontinued you ;
 and fresh comers, of rank like-
 wise, have peremptorily forbid
 your being employed ; and both
 expresly on the ground of my
 charge against you, which remains
 unanswered.

Your reputation, therefore, is
 flaw'd, and you would set about
 mending it, if your conscience did
 not tell you, that tinkering would
 make it worse.

As

As to those who still continue to befriend you, far be it from me to intend them the least offence on your account: prepossessions are incident to the best and most ingenuous minds; and prejudice will guard for a while the opinions it has created: but they will be weary, at length, of lavishing encouragement on a man ignorant in practice, and careless in trust. The success of artifice is at best precarious; the applause of ignorance will be transient; the triumph of malice short; truth, on the other hand will find defenders, and time will increase their number.



F I N I S.

